

## ABSTRACT

1           An ink fountain assembly for use in duplicating machines, such as rotary  
2 lithographic machines. The assembly comprises a fountain trough defined by an  
3 elongated blade and an ink fountain roller defining a gap therebetween. A  
4 proximal edge of the blade is rigidly retained and a distal edge of said blade,  
5 adjacent said roller, engaging a portion of the frame and being initially flexed and  
6 prestressed toward said roller to define the gap. The gap may be varied to control  
7 ink flow therethrough.